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be requested to use their best endeavors for the accomplishment of this object, and that the Governor of this State be also requested to transmit to each, and to the President of the United States, a copy of these Resolutions.

We learn with as much surprise as regret, that the passage of these resolutions was vehemently opposed by a single youthful member of the Senate, on the strange allegation of their being aimed against the present national administration; but members of his own party in both branches of the Legislature wisely repudiated this idea by voting for the measure. Such an allegation we deem unjust to the men who now hold the helm of our Republic; and we trust the good sense of our rulers and our people alike will recognise this great measure of peace as strictly common to all parties and all sections. We hardly see how it can be twisted into a party issue; and certainly the friends of peace have always urged it as entirely aloof from such issues. So it has ever been regarded except in this case; and the action by every other State Legislature has, so far as we know, been most remarkably harmonious and cordial.

GLEANINGS FROM THE MANCHESTER CONFERENCE.

ORIGIN OF A WAR.—REV. HENRY RICHARD thus explained the way in which the present war of the British with the Burman Empire arose:—

It seems that about the middle of the year 1851, complaints were made to the general government of India, that the Governor of Rangoon, one of the cities on the coast of Ava, had been practising extortions and oppressions on some of the merchants trading in that port. I feel bound to state, with the utmost candor, that those complaints were well founded; there is no doubt that the man was a tyrannical and unjust governor. But the first thing our government did, instead of sending a peaceable negotiator to the government of Ava, was to despatch two vessels of war to Rangoon, to demand explanations at the mouth of the cannon. Well, these vessels of war, under the command of Commodore Lambert, presented themselves there; and Commodore Lambert found, on investigation, that the complaints against this governor were well founded; but he had instructions, if he could not bring this man to reason, before commencing hostilities, he should send to the government of Ava. He accordingly forwarded the despatch entrusted to him by the Governor-general, to the King of Ava. Now, mark! a prompt and dignified, and most friendly reply was immediately received, complaining indeed of the threat with which the despatch from the Governor-general concluded, as not consistent with friendship, but conceding, in the most frank and honorable manner, all the demands that were made. These demands were, that the Governor of Rangoon should be displaced from his office on account of the tyranny he had practised against our merchants, and that certain pecuniary compensation should be granted to those merchants for the wrong they had endured. All these claims were immediately and most frankly conceded by the government of Ava; as a proof of which, the Governor-General of India himself said, 'the letter addressed by the ministers of the King of Ava to the Governor of India, was friendly in its tone,

and entirely satisfactory in its tenor; the Court of Ava promised at once to remove the Governor of Rangoon, and to inquire into, in order to redress, the outrages complained of; and if there had been any good reasons to doubt the entire sincerity of those assurances, their prompt fulfilment must have cleared away those doubts.' The offending governor was at once removed, and the successor took his place at Rangoon.

Now, so far all was straight enough; but what took place then? Commodore Lambert sent to inquire at what time the new governor would receive a communication from him; and the reply was, that he would be happy to receive communications from him at any time, as he was anxious to maintain the pacific relations that had existed between the government of India and the government of Ava. Commodore Lambert then sent two of his subordinate officers to wait upon the governor of Rangoon with a communication. They went apparently in a very unceremonious spirit, pressed themselves into the court of the governor's house upon horseback, which it seems was very contrary to the etiquette of the country, and insisted upon being introduced instantly into the presence of the governor. His servants said the Governor was at that time asleep, and it was not consistent with their duty to wake him, or intrude upon him without his own consent. Well, these naval officers thought proper to get into very high dudgeon at this, and to represent to the servants of the governor of Rangoon, that unless they were admitted instantly, he would be either punished by his own government, or the British government would be compelled to inflict summary justice upon him. The servants were not overpowered by these threats, but kept firm, and said they could not *at that time* admit them to the presence of the governor. Well, *for about a quarter of an hour*, this conference took place between the two naval captains, and the servants of the Governor of Rangoon. At the end of the quarter of an hour they returned to Commodore Lambert, stated what had occurred, and no doubt magnified it greatly, in order to make the insult to their dignity appear as formidable as possible.

Then, what did this man, Commodore Lambert, who had at that moment specific instructions from the Governor-General of India, saying, 'It is to be distinctly understood, that no act of hostility is to be permitted at present, though the reply of the Governor of Rangoon should be unfavorable, or until definite instructions regarding such hostilities shall be given by the government of India?' As soon as the complaint was carried back by these two officers to the Commodore, he instantly seized upon the vessels of war belonging to the King of Ava that were lying in the river, blockaded all the coasts, summoned all the British inhabitants residing in the town of Rangoon to quit instantly, and repair to his vessels; and, in fact, he commenced the war. The whole and sole cause of the war we are now waging in Burmah, and which, according to the *Times*, is costing £250,000 per month, *was an insult offered to the dignity of a fourth or fifth-rate British officer in keeping him a quarter of an hour outside the court of the governor of Rangoon!*

How did this arise? It arose from the fact that we are in almost all parts of the world represented by military men; and so it is, that when some small officer, who imagines himself carrying in his own person the whole dignity of the British empire, gets his dignity insulted, he involves the whole of this great empire in war, and we hear nothing of it till we are called upon to vote thanks in the House of Commons, and give peerages to the parties who had been carrying on these wars so unrighteously.

DANGER FROM BEING WELL PREPARED FOR WAR.—GEO. HADFIELD, M. P.—There is no greater mistake, in my humble opinion, than is made in supposing that all danger is over when we are all armed to the teeth. That is the moment of danger, depend upon it; and, if two hostile armies are

within twenty miles of each other,—at Calais and Dover,—they will have blows. You may try to stop them when it is too late; but arm them cap-a-pie, and, depend upon it, they will come to violence. We had a specimen of it that even the Duke of Wellington himself lamented; when the English and Turkish fleets were together at Navarino, they fell to loggerheads, and the Turkish fleet was sunk. You cannot bring gunpowder together so safely as to make it altogether innocent. There will be a spark; you cannot stop it. Men are not formed so as to be fully equipped with all the munitions of war, and to stand as members of the Peace Society.

Sir, what a state of things the world seems to be in! We are all, or nearly all, professed Christians in Europe. How comes it to pass, that the bitterest wars that ever visited the world, are in Europe? How comes it to pass that, by some means or other, more warlike proceedings exist in Christian communities than in any other part of the world? We go to war with all the refinements, all the arts and sciences, to destroy one another whenever we begin. Sir, it is an astounding fact, mentioned by Baron Von Reden, that one-half of the male adult population in Europe, capable and of age to bear arms, is actually under arms,—in Europe, in Christian Europe. I believe I am within compass,—I had it from very high authority, a gentleman now present—there are four millions of soldiers in Europe. Four millions of soldiers in the thirty-eighth year of the peace of Europe!

There are not very many present who recollect much about the late war. I recollect a good deal about it. You have no idea of the state of feeling at that time. My honored ancestors were scouted in the streets for saying far less than my honored friend, Mr. Cobden says in his pamphlet about the causes of that war. They stood like martyrs and confessors, avowing hostility to the American war first; and they protested against it here in Manchester, where the party feeling on the subject was carried to the highest pitch of excitement and fanaticism that you can well conceive. One party declared they would support his majesty against rebellion from any part of his subjects; and the other party, possessed of scripture and of reason, said, ‘Do stop this unnatural war with our brethern in America.’ In the French wars, if our army was slaughtered, days of humiliation were appointed to address the Almighty in solemn mockery for the loss; and if we had the good luck, as it was thought, of slaughtering their troops, why then, we had our days of thanksgiving, to be sure, and the churches were thrown open, and all manner of sentiments of the most excitable nature were dealt among the people, and made the people almost savages in the country. And the party who claimed to be loyal beyond all others in those days, what did they do? Did they pay the cost of the war out of their own pockets? No, they mortgaged *our* sinews and muscles and bones to produce wealth to pay the interest of the debts which they incurred. What was the issue? What good came of it at last? Why, the great duke who had accomplished the final act of setting aside one Napoleon, saw another Napoleon occupy the same place before he was gathered to his fathers. What good have *we* obtained by all the wars we have waged during the last 150 years since the revolution? Who is to stop all this? Will the ministers of the gospel go forth, like Moses in the gap, and stop this plague, or not? We are a blood-guilty nation. Let us have no mincing of the matter; let us speak out—we *are* a blood-guilty nation.

PROSECUTIONS IN ENGLAND FOR EFFORTS AGAINST ENLISTMENT.
—*Charles Gilpin.* It will not be new to many now present, that the peace party have taken an active part out of doors in opposing the progress of the Militia Bill. The Peace Society issued certain placards or handbills in reference to it, and put at the top of them the picture of a man being flogged,

cut having been refused in the House of Commons to do away with the punishment of flogging in the militia. Now, it was found that those handbills produced considerable effect in the community—they interfered with the work of the recruiting sergeants, and were rather inconvenient to the powers that be; and therefore there are four of our friends, in different parts of the country, who are at this hour the subjects of a government prosecution for displaying those bills, and for circulating them. Why, upon this platform, there is one of the victims, Nicholas Withers; he showed a bill in his window, and he was threatened with a government prosecution. There is one man at the present time, I believe, imprisoned because he could not find bail on this charge.

Well, when the Peace Society heard of this, they could not allow innocent men to suffer for what *they* had done. I have not individually written or circulated the bill; but I thoroughly approved of it, and therefore I was very glad to be one of a number who wrote a letter to Mr. Secretary Walpole, telling him that the handbills were simply what the Peace Society had been in the habit of distributing for a number of years; that no preceding government had thought it necessary to take any steps upon it; but that, if he was disposed to punish *any* parties for issuing those bills, let him take those who had signed their names to the letter, and not proceed against the poor bill-stickers and tradesmen who showed those bills in their windows, but take the members of the Peace Society. That letter was sent to Mr. Secretary Walpole; the first signature upon it was that of a banker in Lombard-street, and it was followed by about sixty signatures. Mr. Secretary Walpole never took the trouble to acknowledge that letter. Of course, the Secretary of the Peace Society wished to know what was to be done; and when Lord Palmerston came into power, a copy of the letter was sent to him. Lord Palmerston replied, 'that he could not enter into any discussion with Mr. Richard on the principles of the Peace Society!' Why, nobody wanted him to do so; all they had wanted to know was, would he or would he not, continue the prosecution of these poor men? And we have not got an answer to that yet, although a second letter has been sent. We are now waiting to see what is to come next; but if Lord Palmerston thinks those trials are to go by default, or that because some of these victims are poor men, they will be overridden by county magistrates, he is mistaken. Those trials shall all be brought up to the city of London; the people of England, and the world, shall know of this onslaught on the liberty of the press. The first counsel of the land shall be engaged to defend their cause; and it shall be seen whether a professedly liberal government, coalition though they be, will venture to attack the press of England. Having taken the trouble to consult one or two of the first counsel of the day on the subject of the Militia Bill, I have learned from one of them distinctly, that the most libellous parts of the placard in question were the quotations from the New Testament.

PROFITS OF THE OPIUM TRADE.—It is stated that the annual gains of the East India Company on the pernicious drug, opium, are on a moderate estimate \$21,000,000; and it is presumed to exceed even that enormous sum. This is a most inhuman traffic, spreading poverty, disease, crime, ruin and death among millions.